

Apply by March 31 for nontraditional student scholarship

March 16, 2011

LOS ALAMOS, New Mexico, March 16, 2011—Employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory or students working at the Laboratory who have interrupted their education and now want to obtain a degree from Northern New Mexico College (NNMC) have a chance to receive a \$750 scholarship.

The Christopher Montalvo/LANL Scholarship, offered through the NNMC Foundation, will provide funds to Lab employees or students pursuing a certificate, a two-year-degree, or a baccalaureate degree at NNMC in fields that can contribute to the Lab's national service and scientific missions.

The deadline to apply for and contribute to the scholarship is March 31. The first round of awards is scheduled for this fall.

"This scholarship is a great addition to the programs already available to LANL personnel," said Chris Cantwell, associate director for environment, safety, health & quality. "In particular it will help those individuals interested in such areas as radiation protection, welding technologies, and engineering, as well as other studies vital to successful operations at the Laboratory," added Cantwell, who headed the scholarship advisory board.

"This new scholarship provides an avenue of support for individuals who are often left out of other scholarship programs," said Kim Thomas, LANL's Science and Technology Base Program director. "Given the ever-increasing costs of higher education and the fact that more than 25 percent of Lab employees have less than two years of post-high school education, this scholarship meets a crucial need."

The scholarship commemorates former Lab intern and honor student Christopher Montalvo. Montalvo was a senior at Pojoaque High School in 2005 when he died in a car accident on his way to school, said his parents, Maryrose and Michael Montalvo.

Applications and donations

To apply for the scholarship, visit http://foundation.nnmc.edu/page/nnmc-foundation and download and complete the application form. The application package must be submitted in person by March 31 to the NNMC Foundation, located at 921 N. Paseo de Oñate, Española.

Applicants must be residents of the seven-county area of Northern New Mexico, be LANL employees or students, and hold a high school diploma or GED. In addition, they must have been accepted into or be pursuing a certificate, a two-year degree, or a baccalaureate degree. Finally, they must not receive support from Department of Energy or Laboratory sources or other student assistance programs, or have received support that is insufficient to fully support their program.

To donate to the program, visit http://foundation.nnmc.edu/page/give-northern. The NNMC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; all donations are tax-deductible.

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